



ARIZONA STATE SENATE

Fifty-Second Legislature, First Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1225

industrial hemp; study committee

Purpose

Creates a 10-member Industrial Hemp Study Committee and outlines its membership.

Background

Current statute defines marijuana as all parts of any plant of the genus Cannabis, growing or not, from which the resin has not been extracted, and the seeds of such plant. Furthermore, statute excludes the mature stalks of such plant or the sterilized seeds of such plant incapable of germination from the definition of marijuana. Industrial hemp is one variety of Cannabis sativa L. and is distinguished by its low level of the psychoactive chemical delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

Federal law categorizes hemp as a species of Cannabis sativa L. and is considered a Schedule I controlled substance. Industrial hemp production requires a permit from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Permits are issued at the sole discretion of the DEA.

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Establishes the Industrial Hemp Study Committee (Committee) consisting of:
 - a) two members of the Senate who are appointed by the President of the Senate and who are members of different political parties;
 - b) two members of the House of Representatives who are appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and who are members of different political parties;
 - c) one representative of a statewide farm association or organization who is appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
 - d) one county attorney who is appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
 - e) one sheriff who is appointed by the President of the Senate;
 - f) one member of the public who is engaged in the business of farming, who has interest in growing industrial hemp and who is appointed by the President of the Senate;
 - g) the Director of the Arizona Department of Agriculture or the Director's designee;
 - h) the Dean of the University of Arizona College of Agriculture and Life Sciences or the Dean's designee.
2. Requires the Committee to research and report on:
 - a) the beneficial uses of industrial hemp;

FACT SHEET

S.B. 1225

Page 2

- b) the economic opportunities associated with the production and the manufacturing of industrial hemp;
 - c) actions taken by the federal government and other states regarding industrial hemp.
3. Requires the Committee to submit a report on or before September 1, 2016 regarding its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate and to provide a copy of its report to the Secretary of State.
 4. Repeals the Committee on January 1, 2017.
 5. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

Prepared by Senate Research

February 4, 2015

LL/GW/lS